

Evidence-Based and Evidence-Informed Practice: Strengthening Existing Programs Tier 1

Edi Winkle, MSW October 15, 2008

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Desired Outcomes

- Understand the keys in **Strengthening Current Services**
- Examine Logic Models for Key Components
- Participate in Evaluation and Implementation Planning

Strengthening Existing Programs

Wait! I already offer a program I am interested in continuing to offer...



Where to Start

- Look at the research base and how it applies to your existing program. Does it:
 - Support the interventions you offer
 - Have resources (methodologies, evaluation tools, etc.) that could help support your work

Logic Models

- Integral component in Strengthening Programs
 - -Several different models out there
 - Identified key areas to be fleshed out

Logic Model: Linking Services to Outcomes, Outcomes to Measures

- Vision
- Target Group
- Assumptions
- Services/ Activities
- Resources Needed
- Outcomes
- Measurement/ Evaluation



EGrAMS and Logic Models

FRIENDS Term	EGrAMS Term
Outcome	Objective
Services	Activity
Indicators	Expected Outcome
Measurement Tool	Measurement

Vision

Does your logic model include your vision statement?

- •Vision statements are a statement of why you are doing the work in the first place.
 - Simple, straight-forward statements
 - Does not need to be measurable

Examples:

- Stable Nurturing Families
- •Children Ready for School

Target Population



- Who are your participants?
- What are their characteristics and demographics?
- What are their needs?
- Does your program address those needs?

Taking a Look

- Evaluate your current logic model. Do you have:
 - -A Vision statement that clearly states the purpose for the project?
 - –A clearly defined target population?
 - -The basic needs of the target population clearly identified?

Assumptions

- •Does your logic model clearly state your assumptions for your services?
- -Services should be based on what is known to be effective.



Services

- Does your logic model clearly document all your program activities and services?
 - What services are you providing?
 - What do they look like?
 - How frequently will they occur?

Services:

- Twelve 1 hour parenting education sessions using the "Safe Homes" curriculum.
- Access to concrete materials (such as fencing, stair gates, car seats, etc.)

Assumptions:

Two evaluations of the *Safe Homes* curriculum (Fisher, 2000, Hale & Carter, 2003), each conducted over a 3-year period, found that children of parents who had participated in the program were 50% less likely to experience preventable injuries than children in comparison groups.

Resources

- Based on the services you provide
 - What resources do you need to carry out these services?

•Money	•Staff
•Space	•Curriculum
•Materials	Office Support

– How do you get them? Direct funding, in-kind, collaborations?

Outcomes

- Does your logic model clearly state your intended outcomes?
- They should document:
 - Movement towards or attainment of a change in attitude, belief, behavior
 - —What has changed for the people you serve as a direct result of the services you offered?

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Good outcome statements are directly related to:

- · Needs of the target population
- Funders' goals and priorities
- Your mission & purpose
- · Services & activities

Envisioning CHANGE

- If you conduct your program's activities, and succeed with participants, what do they believe, know, have or do as a result?
- What one or two changes do you believe will occur in the lives of your program's participants as a result of your services?

Challenges in Evaluating Outcomes

- Claiming responsibility for preventing negative outcomes or things that didn't happen
- Demonstrating tangible results from things that are hard to measure
- Showing long-term growth within a short and rigid time-frame

Outcomes

- Short-term
- Intermediate
- Long-term



Short-Term Outcomes

- Engagement outcomes: First steps: gaining trust, interest and involvement
- Learning outcomes: Changes in knowledge, attitudes, beliefs

Intermediate Outcomes

Intermediate (practice):

- Moving from learning to action
- Practicing and refining new skills
- Adopting or changing behaviors

Long-Term Outcomes

Long-term (integration):

- Consistently practicing new skills, behaviors
- Impact on social, economic or environmental conditions



Writing Outcome Statements

- Identify the desired changes in <u>participants'</u> knowledge, attitudes, skills or aspirations
- Written by determining:
 - --Who (example: Participants)
 - --Will Do (example: will know)
 - --What (example: where to access

basic health-care information

for their children)

Formatting Outcomes

- **Short-term:** Participants demonstrate knowledge of how to appropriately supervise their children.
- Intermediate: Participants provide appropriate supervision of their children.
- Long-term: Participants provide appropriate supervision according to the changing needs of the children as they grow and develop.

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Logic Model Activity

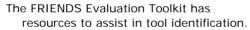
- · Write outcome statements
 - -Who
 - -Will do
 - -What?

Selecting Measurement Tools

Is the tool...

- · linked to outcomes?
- · culturally appropriate?
- practical?

Does your agency have the time and money to use it?



<u>http://www.friendsnrc.org/outcome/toolkit/annot.htm</u>)



Implementation Planning

- A crucial step in developing an effective and sustainable program.
- Clearly documents key program areas:
 - Measurement tool
 - Timelines
 - Staff Training
 - Data Management
 - Data Analyzation
 - Data Dissemination



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Contact Information	_	
Edi Winkle ediwinkle@windstream.net	- -	
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FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention A Service of the Children's Bureau	_	